



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/675,281	09/30/2003	Paul Clark	EMC03-13(02183)	5469
58404	7590	11/02/2007		
BARRY W. CHAPIN CHAPIN INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW, LLC WESTBOROUGH OFFICE PARK 1700 WEST PARK DRIVE WESTBOROUGH, MA 01581			EXAMINER RAYYAN, SUSAN F	
			ART UNIT 2167	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 11/02/2007	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/675,281	<b>Applicant(s)</b> CLARK ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b> Susan F. Rayyan	<b>Art Unit</b> 2167	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 August 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 3-26 and 28-35 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 3-26 and 28-35 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                       | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application                       |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

**DETAILED ACTION**

1. Claims 2, 27 are canceled.
2. Claims 1, 3-26, 28-35 are pending.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

**Claims 1, 3-26, 28-35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent Number 6,581,094 issued to Jici Gao ("Gao") and US Publication Number 2003/0154271 issued to Duane Mark Baldwin et al ("Baldwin").**

**As per claim 1** Gao teaches:

retrieving access data from a repository (column 4, lines 2-3, as Universal Device Descriptor (UDD) files stored in a server and column 5, lines 30-55, as UDD file characterized by device attributes such as access attributes), the access data enabling ... to gain management access to at least one manageable entity (column 3, lines 45-55 and column 5, lines 14-22, as interact with the UDD to perform administration tasks); prior to retrieving the access data, storing the access data in the repository, the repository being a secure repository, and the access data omitted from persistent storage in a local datastore of a computer system operating the agents (column 1, lines

Art Unit: 2167

55-62 and column 4, lines 4-5, as UDD File of each device stored on the server ); transmitting a discovery message to an agent, the discovery message including the access data corresponding to manageable entities ... according to a type of the manageable entity (column 3, lines 45-54, as routing module sending UDD file to a selected device).

Gao does not explicitly teach receiving, from the agent, a manageable entity list message indicative of manageable entities manageable by the agent based on the access data transmitted to the agent, the manageable entity list message operable for determining assignment of management responsibility to the agent for at least one manageable entity of the manageable entities indicated in the manageable entity list message. Baldwin does teach this limitation (at paragraph 196 and 212-224, as manager communicates with agents to discover and gather information about devices and configuration information. The manager responds to the attributes identified by the agents to manage the storage area network) to facilitate visual representation of the storage area network. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Gao with receiving, from the agent, a manageable entity list message indicative of manageable entities manageable by the agent based on the access data transmitted to the agent, the manageable entity list message operable for determining assignment of management responsibility to the agent for at least one manageable entity of the manageable entities indicated in the manageable entity list message to facilitate visual representation of the storage area network as described by Baldwin (paragraph 0013).

Art Unit: 2167

**As per claim 3** same as claim arguments above and Gao teaches:

further comprising building the discovery message based on the access data (column 3, lines 48-53, as routing module to deliver a UDD file).

**As per claim 4** same as claim arguments above and Gao teaches:

wherein the access data includes access control information operable to permit access based on the information in the access control information (column 5, lines 47-53, as access attributes).

**As per claim 5** same as claim arguments above and Gao teaches:

wherein the access data includes location information operable for locating manageable entities of a storage area network in communication with the agent, and the determining a primary agent ... further comprises enabling the agent for discoverable access to the manageable entity (column 5, lines 39-55, geographic attributes).

**As per claim 6** same as claim arguments above and Gao teaches:

The method of claim 1 further comprising encrypting the access data in the discovery message, the encrypting operable to deter unintended determination of the access data (column 5, lines 45-55, Figure 2 as security).

**As per claim 7** same as claim arguments above and Baldwin teaches:

prior to retrieving the access data, receiving an initialization message from at least one of the agents, the initialization message indicative of the readiness of the agent and a type of manageable entity which the agent is operable to manage (paragraph 196, as manager communicates with the plurality of agents).

Art Unit: 2167

**As per claim 8** same as claim arguments above and Gao teaches:

wherein the access data further comprises enumeration of discoverable parameters, including at least one of passwords, network address, control parameters and 3rd party software installation paths (see Figure 2-3 and column 5, lines 30-54, as access attributes).

**As per claim 9** same as claim arguments above and Gao teaches:

wherein retrieving from the repository further comprises querying a component table of the repository to determine access data corresponding to the type of manageable entities the agent is operable to manage (column 3, lines 13-21 and Figure 1, as device list).

**As per claim 10** same as claim arguments above and Gao teaches:

...retrieving the access data corresponding to the type of manageable entity(column 4, lines 2-3, as Universal Device Descriptor (UDD) files stored in a server and column 5, lines 30-55, as UDD file characterized by device attributes such as access attributes) and generating the discovery message from the retrieved access data(column 3, lines 45-54, as routing module sending UDD file to a selected device).

**As per claim 11** same as claim arguments above and Baldwin teaches:

wherein the manageable entity list message further comprises, for each of the configured types of manageable entities for which access data was found:  
an indicator of each of the agents operable to manage the configured manageable entity type (paragraph 196, as manager communicates with the agents, each of which

Art Unit: 2167

gather information).

**As per claim 12** same as claim arguments above and Gao teaches:

wherein storing the access data in the repository further comprises removing the access data from alternate, distributed datastores and consolidating the access data in the repository (column 4, lines 3-5, as access data (UDD File) stored on a device or server).

**As per claim 15** Gao teaches:

retrieving access data from a repository, the access data suitable for locating the manageable entities manageable ... (column 4, lines 2-3, as Universal Device Descriptor (UDD) files stored in a server and column 5, lines 30-55, as UDD file characterized by device attributes such as access attributes and column 3, lines 45-55 and column 5, lines 14-22, as interact with the UDD to perform administration tasks);

prior to retrieving the access data, storing the access data in the repository, the repository being a secure repository, and the access data omitted from persistent storage in a local datastore of a computer system operating the agents (column 1, lines 55-62 and column 4, lines 4-5, as UDD File of each device stored on the server );

transmitting, from the server, discovery information to an agent, the discovery message including access data corresponding to a type of the manageable entities accessible ... (column 3, lines 45-54, as routing module sending UDD file to a selected device).

Gao does not explicitly teach receiving, from the agent, object information indicative of manageable entities manageable by the agent. Baldwin does teach this limitation (at paragraph 196 and 212-224, as manager communicates with agents to

Art Unit: 2167

discover and gather information about devices and configuration information. The manager responds to the attributes identified by the agents to manage the storage area network) to facilitate visual representation of the storage area network. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Gao with receiving, from the agent, object information indicative of manageable entities manageable by the agent to facilitate visual representation of the storage area network as described by Baldwin (paragraph 0013).

**As per claim 16** Gao teaches:

an access data manager in a server for retrieving access data from a repository(column 4, lines 2-3, as Universal Device Descriptor (UDD) files stored in a server and column 5, lines 30-55, as UDD file characterized by device attributes such as access attributes), the access data enabling ... to gain management access to at least one manageable entity(column 3, lines 45-55 and column 5, lines 14-22,as interact with the UDD to perform administration tasks), the access data manager for transmitting a discovery message to an agent, the discovery message including the access data corresponding to manageable entities accessible by... according to a type of the entity(column 3, lines 45-54, as routing module sending UDD file to a selected device); index, via the type of the manageable entity, into a manageable entity type parameter store, retrieve the access data corresponding to the type of manageable entity and generate the discovery message from the retrieved access data(column 3, lines 45-54, as routing module sending UDD file to a selected device).



Art Unit: 2167

Gao does not explicitly teach the agent responsive to the discovery message for generating a manageable entity list message indicative of manageable entities manageable by the agent based on the access data transmitted to the agent, the manageable entity list message further enabling assignment of management responsibility to the agent for at least one manageable entity of the manageable entities indicated in the manageable entity list message. Baldwin does teach this limitation (at paragraph 196 and 212-224, as manager communicates with agents to discover and gather information about devices and configuration information. The manager responds to the attributes identified by the agents to manage the storage area network) to facilitate visual representation of the storage area network. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Gao with the agent responsive to the discovery message for generating a manageable entity list message indicative of manageable entities manageable by the agent based on the access data transmitted to the agent, the manageable entity list message further enabling assignment of management responsibility to the agent for at least one manageable entity of the manageable entities indicated in the manageable entity list message to facilitate visual representation of the storage area network as described by Baldwin (paragraph 0013).

**As per claim 17** same as claim arguments above and Baldwin teaches:

identify, for a particular manageable entity, a set of agents operable to manage the manageable entity and determine, from the identified set of agents, a primary agent

Art Unit: 2167

operable for managing the manageable entity(at paragraph 196 and 212-224, as manager communicates with agents to discover and gather information about devices and configuration information. The manager responds to the attributes identified by the agents to manage the storage area network).

**As per claim 18** same as claim arguments above and Baldwin teaches:

wherein the server is operable to selectively transmit a designate primary agent message from the server to the agent, the primary agent message indicative of responsibility for managing the manageable entity, and further operable to enable the agent to discover storage characteristics of the manageable entity(at paragraph 196 and 212-224, as manager communicates with agents to discover and gather information about devices and configuration information. The manager responds to the attributes identified by the agents to manage the storage area network).

**As per claim 19** same as claim arguments above and Gao teaches:

wherein the access data manager is further operable to, prior to retrieving the access data, store the access data in the repository, the repository being a secure repository, and the access data omitted from a local datastore corresponding to the agents(column 1, lines 55-62 and column 4, lines 4-5, as UDD File of each device stored on the server ).

**As per claim 20** same as claim arguments above and Gao teaches:

the access data manager is further operable to build the discovery message based on

Art Unit: 2167

the access data. (column 3, lines 48-53, as routing module to deliver a UDD file).

**As per claim 21** same as claim arguments above and Gao teaches:

wherein the access data includes access control information operable to permit access based on the information in the access control information(column 5, lines 47-53, as access attributes).

**As per claim 22** same as claim arguments above and Gao teaches:

wherein the access data includes identification information operable for identifying manageable entities in communication with the agent, the access data further operable to enable the agent for discoverable access to the manageable entity(column 5, lines 39-55, geographic attributes).

**As per claim 23** same as claim arguments above and Gao teaches:

further comprising encrypting the access data in the discovery message, the encrypting operable to deter unintended determination of the access data(column 5, lines 45-55, Figure 2 as security).

**As per claim 24** same as claim arguments above and Baldwin teach:

wherein the access data manager is operable to, prior to retrieving the access data, receive an initialization message from at least one of the agents, the initialization message indicative of the readiness of the agent and a type of manageable entity which the agent is operable to manage(paragraph 196, as manager communicates with the plurality of agents).

Art Unit: 2167

**As per claim 25** same as claim arguments above and Gao teaches:

wherein the access data further comprises enumeration of discoverable parameters, including at least one of passwords, network address, control parameters and 3rd party software installation paths(see Figure 2-3 and column 5, lines 30-54, as access attributes).

**As per claim 26** same as claim arguments above and Gao teaches:

wherein the access data manager is further operable to, prior to retrieving the access data, query a component table of the repository to determine the type of manageable entities the agent is operable to manage(column 3, lines 13-21 and Figure 1, as device list).

**As per claim 28** same as claim arguments above and Baldwin teaches:

wherein the manageable an indicator of access data operable to enable management contact with the configured manageable entity(paragraph 196, as manager communicates with the agents, each of which gather information).

**As per claim 31** Gao teaches:

a display( column 2, lines 46, display)

a memory system (column 2, lines line 47, memory);

a processor (column 2, lines 45, processor); and

an interconnection mechanism connecting the display, the processor and the

memory system (column 2, lines 50-50);

wherein the memory system is encoded with a control center application that when performed on the processor, produces at least one control center process that provides a graphical user interface produced on the display of the computerized device, the graphical user interface allowing a user of the computerized device to monitor and control assigning management responsibility to agents for management of manageable entities in a network (column 2, lines 10-20), the control center processes performing operations comprising:

retrieving access data from a repository(column 4, lines 2-3, as Universal Device Descriptor (UDD) files stored in a server and column 5, lines 30-55, as UDD file characterized by device attributes such as access attributes), the access data enabling ... to gain management access to at least one manageable entity(column 3, lines 45-55 and column 5, lines 14-22,as interact with the UDD to perform administration tasks); transmitting a discovery message to an agent, the discovery message including the access data corresponding to types of manageable entities accessible by the agent(column 3, lines 45-54, as routing module sending UDD file to a selected device); index, via the type of the manageable entity, into a manageable entity type parameter store, retrieve the access data corresponding to the type of manageable entity and generate the discovery message from the retrieved access data(column 3, lines 45-54, as routing module sending UDD file to a selected device).

Gao does not explicitly teach receiving, from the agent, a manageable entity list message indicative of manageable entities manageable by the agent based on the

Art Unit: 2167

access data transmitted to the agent, the manageable entity list message operable for determining assignment of management responsibility to the agent for at least one manageable entity of the manageable entities indicated in the manageable entity list message. Baldwin does teach this limitation (at paragraph 196 and 212-224, as manager communicates with agents to discover and gather information about devices and configuration information. The manager responds to the attributes identified by the agents to manage the storage area network) to facilitate visual representation of the storage area network. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Gao with receiving, from the agent, a manageable entity list message indicative of manageable entities manageable by the agent based on the access data transmitted to the agent, the manageable entity list message operable for determining assignment of management responsibility to the agent for at least one manageable entity of the manageable entities indicated in the manageable entity list message to facilitate visual representation of the storage area network as described by Baldwin (paragraph 0013).

**As per claim 32 Gao teaches:**

computer program code for retrieving access data from a repository(column 4, lines 2-3, as Universal Device Descriptor (UDD) files stored in a server and column 5, lines 30-55, as UDD file characterized by device attributes such as access attributes), the access data enabling an agent to gain management access to at least one manageable

Art Unit: 2167

entity(column 3, lines 45-55 and column 5, lines 14-22,as interact with the UDD to perform administration tasks);

computer program code for, prior to retrieving the access data, storing the access data in the repository, the repository being a secure repository, and the access data omitted from persistent storage in a local datastore of a computer system operating the agents (column 1, lines 55-62 and column 4, lines 4-5, as UDD File of each device stored on the server );

computer program code for transmitting a discovery message to an agent, the discovery message including the access data corresponding to types of manageable entities accessible by the agent(column 3, lines 45-54, as routing module sending UDD file to a selected device).

Gao does not explicitly teach computer program code for receiving, from the agent, a manageable entity list message indicative of manageable entities manageable by the agent based on the access data transmitted to the agent, the manageable entity list message operable for determining assignment of management responsibility to the agent for at least one manageable entity of the manageable entities indicated in the manageable entity list message. Baldwin does teach this limitation (at paragraph 196 and 212-224, as manager communicates with agents to discover and gather information about devices and configuration information. The manager responds to the attributes identified by the agents to manage the storage area network) to facilitate visual representation of the storage area network. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Gao with computer

Art Unit: 2167

program code for receiving, from the agent, a manageable entity list message indicative of manageable entities manageable by the agent based on the access data transmitted to the agent, the manageable entity list message operable for determining assignment of management responsibility to the agent for at least one manageable entity of the manageable entities indicated in the manageable entity list message to facilitate visual representation of the storage area network as described by Baldwin (paragraph 0013).

**As per claim 33 Gao teaches:**

program code for retrieving access data from a repository(column 4, lines 2-3, as Universal Device Descriptor (UDD) files stored in a server and column 5, lines 30-55, as UDD file characterized by device attributes such as access attributes), the access data enabling... to gain management access to at least one manageable entity(column 3, lines 45-55 and column 5, lines 14-22,as interact with the UDD to perform administration tasks);

program code for, prior to retrieving the access data, storing the access data in the repository, the repository being a secure repository, and the access data omitted from persistent storage in a local datastore of a computer system operating the agents (column 1, lines 55-62 and column 4, lines 4-5, as UDD File of each device stored on the server );

program code for transmitting a discovery message to an agent, the discovery message including the access data corresponding to types of manageable entities accessible by



Art Unit: 2167

the agent(column 3, lines 45-54, as routing module sending UDD file to a selected device);

index, via the type of the manageable entity, into a manageable entity type parameter store, retrieve the access data corresponding to the type of manageable entity and generate the discovery message from the retrieved access data(column 3, lines 45-54, as routing module sending UDD file to a selected device).

Gao does not explicitly teach program code for receiving, from the agent, a manageable entity list message indicative of manageable entities manageable by the agent based on the access data transmitted to the agent, the manageable entity list message operable for determining assignment of management responsibility to the agent for at least one manageable entity of the manageable entities indicated in the manageable entity list message. Baldwin does teach this limitation (at paragraph 196 and 212-224, as manager communicates with agents to discover and gather information about devices and configuration information. The manager responds to the attributes identified by the agents to manage the storage area network) to facilitate visual representation of the storage area network. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Gao with program code for receiving, from the agent, a manageable entity list message indicative of manageable entities manageable by the agent based on the access data transmitted to the agent, the manageable entity list message operable for determining assignment of management responsibility to the agent for at least one manageable entity of the manageable entities indicated in the manageable entity list message to facilitate visual

Art Unit: 2167

representation of the storage area network as described by Baldwin (paragraph 0013).

**As per claim 34** Gao teaches:

A data communications device for assigning management responsibility to agents for management of manageable entities comprising:

means for retrieving access data from a repository(column 4, lines 2-3, as Universal Device Descriptor (UDD) files stored in a server and column 5, lines 30-55, as UDD file characterized by device attributes such as access attributes), the access data enabling ... to gain management access to at least one manageable entity(column 3, lines 45-55 and column 5, lines 14-22,as interact with the UDD to perform administration tasks);

means for, prior to retrieving the access data, storing the access data in the repository, the repository being a secure repository, and the access data omitted from persistent storage in a local datastore of a computer system operating the agents (column 1, lines 55-62 and column 4, lines 4-5, as UDD File of each device stored on the server );

means for transmitting a discovery message to an agent, the discovery message including the access data corresponding to types of manageable entities accessible by the agent (column 3, lines 45-54, as routing module sending UDD file to a selected device);

index, via the type of the manageable entity, into a manageable entity type parameter store, retrieve the access data corresponding to the type of manageable entity and generate the discovery message from the retrieved access data(column 3, lines 45-54, as routing module sending UDD file to a selected device).

Gao does not explicitly teach means for receiving, from the agent, a manageable entity list message indicative of manageable entities manageable by the agent based on the access data transmitted to the agent, and the manageable entity list message operable for determining assignment of management responsibility to the agent for at least one manageable entity of the manageable entities indicated in the manageable entity list message. Baldwin does teach this limitation (at paragraph 196 and 212-224, as manager communicates with agents to discover and gather information about devices and configuration information. The manager responds to the attributes identified by the agents to manage the storage area network) to facilitate visual representation of the storage area network. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Gao with means for receiving, from the agent, a manageable entity list message indicative of manageable entities manageable by the agent based on the access data transmitted to the agent, and the manageable entity list message operable for determining assignment of management responsibility to the agent for at least one manageable entity of the manageable entities indicated in the manageable entity list message to facilitate visual representation of the storage area network as described by Baldwin (paragraph 0013).

**As per claim 35** Gao teaches:

identifying security sensitive access data stored in distributed local storage at manageable entities in the storage area network(column 4, lines 2-3, as Universal Device Descriptor (UDD) files stored in a server and column 5, lines 30-55, as UDD file

Art Unit: 2167

characterized by device attributes such as access attributes, security) ;

moving the access data from the distributed local storage to a common repository

having controlled access via a control center application (column 4, lines 2-3, as Universal Device Descriptor (UDD) files stored in a server;

identifying, via the control center application and the repository, a set of manageable entity types operable to be managed by that agent type (column 5, lines 30-55, as UDD file characterized by device attributes such as access attributes) ;

retrieving, via an access data manager in the control center application, the access data from the repository(column 4, lines 2-3, as Universal Device Descriptor (UDD) files stored in a server and column 5, lines 30-55, as UDD file characterized by device attributes such as access attributes), corresponding to the type of manageable entities, the access data enabling ... to gain management access to at least one manageable entity(column 3, lines 45-55 and column 5, lines 14-22,as interact with the UDD to perform administration tasks);

prior to retrieving the access data, storing the access data in the repository, the repository being a secure repository, and the access data omitted from persistent storage in a local datastore of a computer system operating the agents (column 1, lines 55-62 and column 4, lines 4-5, as UDD File of each device stored on the server );

transmitting a discovery message to an agent, the discovery message including the access data corresponding to the types of manageable entities accessible by the agent(column 3, lines 45-54, as routing module sending UDD file to a selected device).

Gao does not explicitly teach receiving, from the agents, an indicator of a type of

Art Unit: 2167

manageable entities operable for management by each of the agents, receiving, from each of the agents responsive to the discovery message, a manageable entity list message indicative of manageable entities coupled to the agent and manageable by the agent based on the access data transmitted to the agent, a plurality of the manageable entity list messages further operable in aggregate for generating a management correlation indicative of a set of agents operable to manage each of the identified manageable entities, the management correlation for enabling, based on the generated management correlation and agent allocation logic operable to optimize allocation of agents, assignment of management responsibility to each of the agents for at least one manageable entity of the manageable entities indicated in the plurality of manageable entity list messages. Baldwin does teach receiving, from the agents, an indicator of a type of manageable entities operable for management by each of the agents (paragraph 196, as manager communicates with the agents, each of which gather information), receiving, from each of the agents responsive to the discovery message, a manageable entity list message indicative of manageable entities coupled to the agent and manageable by the agent based on the access data transmitted to the agent, a plurality of the manageable entity list messages further operable in aggregate for generating a management correlation indicative of a set of agents operable to manage each of the identified manageable entities, the management correlation for enabling, based on the generated management correlation and agent allocation logic operable to optimize allocation of agents, assignment of management responsibility to each of the agents for at least one manageable entity of the manageable entities indicated in the plurality of

Art Unit: 2167

manageable entity list messages ( at paragraph 196 and 212-224, as manager communicates with agents to discover and gather information about devices and configuration information. The manager responds to the attributes identified by the agents to manage the storage area network) to facilitate visual representation of the storage area network. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Gao with receiving, from the agents, an indicator of a type of manageable entities operable for management by each of the agents, receiving, from each of the agents responsive to the discovery message, a manageable entity list message indicative of manageable entities coupled to the agent and manageable by the agent based on the access data transmitted to the agent, a plurality of the manageable entity list messages further operable in aggregate for generating a management correlation indicative of a set of agents operable to manage each of the identified manageable entities, the management correlation for enabling, based on the generated management correlation and agent allocation logic operable to optimize allocation of agents, assignment of management responsibility to each of the agents for at least one manageable entity of the manageable entities indicated in the plurality of manageable entity list messages to facilitate visual representation of the storage area network as described by Baldwin (paragraph 0013).

***Allowable Subject Matter***

4. Claims 13-14,29-30 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

***Response to Arguments***

5. Applicant's arguments filed August 23, 2007 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant argues prior art of record does not teach access data stored at a central repository. Examiner finds Gao teaches this at (figure 1, ref. No. 76 (udd files) and column 1, lines 55-62 and column 4, lines 4-5, as UDD File (access data) of each device stored on the server (central repository).

Applicant argues prior art of record does not teach the claimed discovery message TO an agent. Examiner finds Gao teaches this at (column 3, lines 39-47, as search module searches for specific digital devices and column 3, lines 48-54, as routing module sending UDD file to a selected device).

Applicant argues prior art of record does not teach the responsive manageable entity list FROM the agent indicating the manageable entities that are manageable by the agent. Examiner finds Baldwin does teach this limitation (at paragraph 196 and 212-224, as manager communicates with agents to discover and gather information about

Art Unit: 2167

devices and configuration information. The manager responds to the attributes identified by the agents to manage the storage area network) to facilitate visual representation of the storage area network.

Applicant argues prior art of record does not teach start up activity such as ...determining assignment of management responsibility to the agent. Examiner finds Baldwin does teach this limitation (at paragraph 196 and 212-224, as manager communicates with agents to discover and gather information about devices and configuration information. The manager responds to the attributes identified by the agents to manage the storage area network)

In response to applicant's argument that the references fail to show certain features of applicant's invention, it is noted that the features upon which applicant relies (i.e., agent start up of different types of agents in a storage area network. In the SAN each of the agents has a type of manageable entities (SAN entity) that it is operable to manage, such as a storage array, switch, and host.) are not recited in the rejected claim(s). Although the claims are interpreted in light of the specification, limitations from the specification are not read into the claims. See *In re Van Geuns*, 988 F.2d 1181, 26 USPQ2d 1057 (Fed. Cir. 1993).



***Conclusion***

6. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.


**Contact Information**


7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Susan F. Rayyan whose telephone number is 571-272-1675. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F, 7:30-4:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Cottingham can be reached on 571-272-7079. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2167

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

  
Susan Rayyan  
October 26, 2007

  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 2167